

NEW X-MEN

ISSUE 20

CHILDHOOD'S END PART 1 (OF 4)

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FINAL REVISED DRAFT

9/29/05

REVISED DRAFT

6/26/05

FIRST DRAFT

6/24/05

FAO Mike Marts

RECAP PAGE

The page is black except for one wide screen image of the XAVIER INSTITUTE, with text above and below it.

TEXT ABOVE IMAGE:

PREVIOUSLY IN NEW X-MEN

Born with genetic mutations that give them abilities beyond those of normal humans, Mutants are the next step in evolution. As such, they are often feared and hated by the powerless human population. But a group of these mutants known as the X-Men fight for the safety of mutants and for peaceful co-existence between mutant and humankind.

Their headquarters, the Xavier Institute for Higher Learning, is more than just a base of operations. It is also a fully staffed school. The students at the Institute have all the normal responsibilities and classes of human high school students but also have the added pressure of superhuman studies. To ensure their survival in an often hostile world, these students have been broken into squads and are trained to use their powers in combat situations.

INSERT THE IMAGE OF THE INSTITUTE HERE

TEXT BELOW IMAGE:

PREVIOUSLY IN HOUSE OF M

The mutant Avenger named the Scarlet Witch lost her mind and control over her reality altering powers. The end result of her psychotic brake and power overload was a global transformation. Mutants became the dominant species, humanity teetered on the brink of extension, and MAGNETO ruled all.

Through the combined efforts of the X-Men, Avengers and Doctor Strange, the natural world and timeline was restored... but at a high price. When reality reverted back, the Scarlet Witch cast one last spell; one that stripped her and the majority of all mutants of their superhuman powers.

Now, only a select few mutants remain...

PAGE ONE

1/ WESTCHESTER, NIGHT. WIDE and LOW - from behind, a silhouetted figure (WILLIAM STRYKER) who stumbles through puddles and rain, heading toward a dilapidated CHURCH in the distance. The church long abandoned, stands with boarded up windows and is covered in graffiti.

1 CAPTION; DALLAS, TEXAS

2 CAPTION; TWO YEARS BEFORE M

2/ CLOSER, at the Church's doors. As the silver haired man's hand presses on the doors. Beside the entrance on the outer wall of the church, we see a VANDALIZED PLAQUE that reads:

'MINISTRY OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM STRYKER'

3/ INSIDE THE CHURCH. High angle, looking down as the double church doors open wide. The long shadow of the man stretches between the pews. The church has been raided. Overturned pews, broken candles, shattered stained glass and other religious wreckage litters the floor.

3 STRYKER; LORD!

4/ The ALTAR. From behind the crucifix, the cross and Jesus' feet hang at the top of the panel as we see Stryker approach from the doors. He looks like a BUM.

4 STRYKER; Why?!

5/ CLOSE ON STRYKER. He has rough, matted silver hair and matching beard. We see his half SAD, half ANGRY expression on his soot-covered face as he looks up to Jesus on the cross (OC).

5 STRYKER; I served you faithfully... I sacrificed everything I held dear... My wife! My child!

6 STRYKER; All for you Lord. All for you...

PAGE TWO

1/ BEHIND AND OVER JESUS' SHOULDER, we look down to Stryker as he SCREAMS at GOD, his arms raised toward Christ with clenched fists.

1 STRYKER; But now I am alone... Lost! FORSAKEN!!!

2/ CLOSE ON STRIKER, his face riddled with pain

2 STRYKER; And when I came to you for guidance...
 for hope...

3/ CLOSE on the face of JESUS, unresponsive in its stoniness.

3 STRYKER (OFF); You gave me NOTHING!

4/ CLOSE ON STRYKER'S hand as he pulls a stolen revolver from his tattered jacket pocket.

4 STRYKER (OFF); Nothing...

5/ ON STRYKER - he puts the gun to his head, an infinite sadness on his face. Not for the loss of his life, but the loss of his purpose.

5 STRYKER; I ask you now, Lord. One last time...
 Give me your strength. Light my way
 back to you.

6/ CLOSE - on the revolver, as Stryker's finger begins to squeeze the trigger and ease the hammer back.

6 STRYKER; Please, Lord...

PAGE THREE

1/ Tight on Stryker's clenched shut eyes - as an unearthly WARM LIGHT begins to illuminate his face.

1 STRYKER; Please...

2/ PULL OUT, WIDER on Stryker - his eyes now squinted slits blinded by the unearthly WARM LIGHT that washes over him.

3/ LOW, BEHIND STRYKER who drops to his knees. His arms fall to his side and with them, the GUN to the floor. In front of him hovers a MASSIVE, BLINDING WHITE LIGHT in the loose shape of a cross, obscuring the stone crucifix.

NOTE: This blinding shape will be revealed 5 issues from now as NIMROD teleporting into the church. His arms stretched out to both sides, forming a cross like shape with his body.

2 STRYKER; AHHHHH!

4/ BIG AND CLOSE ON STRYKER'S ILLUMINATED FACE. His eyes open, overflowing with tears. In the irises of Stryker's eyes we see the brilliant blinding cross-like shape that hovers in front of him.

3 STRYKER; Thank you, God.

PAGE FOUR

1/ BLACK

1 CAPTION; XAVIER INSTITUTE.

2 CAPTION; NOW.

2/ SHORT, WIDE. ECU ON EMMA FROST. She stands with her eyes closed.

3/ SHORT, WIDE. SAME. Emma's eyes SNAP open.

4/ Emma Frost on the lawn of the Xavier Institute, as seen in HOUSE OF M #8. Her face is ashen, and there's a hint of fear.

3 EMMA (SMALL); No!

5/ REVERSE. From behind Emma, we see the XAVIER INSTITUTE, still in the early morning.

4 STUDENT (OC); <HELP!!!!!! SOMEONE HELP ME!!!!>

6/ ON EMMA, she takes off running for the Institute, full on fear in her eyes. There are no atheists in foxholes.

5 EMMA; Please, God, no!

6 CAPTION; EMMA FROST. THE WHITE QUEEN

7 CAPTION; Telepath, diamond form.

8 CAPTION; HEADMISTRESS

PAGE FIVE

1/ THE BOYS' DORM. CLOSE on KEVIN FORD (WITHER) as he sits bolt upright in bed, as if waking from a nightmare.

1 STUDENTS (OC); EEEEEEEEEEE!

2 KEVIN; Wha-?

3 CAPTION; KEVIN FORD. WITHER.

4 CAPTION; Uncontrollable death touch.

2/ WIDE ON THE ROOM. Kevin's out of bed, opening his door. ON the nightstand in the f.g., we see KEVIN'S GLOVES.

5 STUDENTS (OC); AAAAAAAHHHH!!!!

3/ THE HALLWAY. ON KEVIN'S DOOR. A non-descript KID (human) runs past, almost hitting Kevin as he comes out.

6 KID; AAAAHH!!

7 KEVIN; HEY!

4/ ANGLE - KEVIN LOOKS DOWN THE HALL to see DALLAS (SPECTRE) crawling on the ground.

8 DALLAS; ...please... please come back...

9 KEVIN; Dallas? What's going on?

5/ INSERT - CLOSE ON DALLAS, crying. He lost his best friend.

10 DALLAS; I can't find my shadow. He won't come when I call him.

11 CAPTION; DALLAS GIBSON. SPECTER.

12 CAPTION; Shadow form.

6/ ON KEVIN, turning from Dallas at the sound of more screaming.

13 STUDENTS (OFF); EEEEEEEEEEE!

14 KEVIN; Dallas... I... Hang on, I'll be right back.

PAGE SIX AND SEVEN

DOUBLE PAGE SPREAD WITH INSERTS

1/ INSERT. CLOSE on Kevin's shocked face as he turns the corner, looking out at the chaos.

1 KEVIN; I'll be...

2 KEVIN (SMALL); ...right back.

2/ SPLASH - the COMMON AREA. It's total pandemonium as students rush the area, most of them looking human. Some are happy, some are in shock, some are sobbing uncontrollably.

3 KID 1; HAHHAHAHAH!

4 KID 2; NO! NO!!!

5 KID 3; HELP MEEEEEE!

6 KID 4; THANKYOUTHANKYOUTHANKYOU!

7 KID 5; STAY AWAY FROM MEEE!

3/ INSERT. JESSIE is clawing at her eyes.

8 JESSIE; I can't see! I can't SEE!!

4/ INSERT. Another kid is trying to convince his best friend that it's him.

9 HUMAN KID; It's me! Come on, don't you recognize me?!

5/ INSERT. A boy SHRIEKS.

10 SHRIEKING BOY; AHHHH! AHHHH! AHHHHHH!

PAGE EIGHT

1/ The INSTITUTE LOBBY. Emma is inside now, rushing forward through a CROWD of students, fighting her way though.

1 EMMA; UH!

2 EMMA; Everyone, stay calm!

2/ CLOSE ON EMMA - she's being overwhelmed by the psychic onslaught. Her nose is BLEEDING, and she touches her forehead in pain.

3 EMMA; Everything...

4 EMMA; <Uhhhn> ...is going to be alright.

3/ THE CUCKOOS' ROOM. The three girls in their beds, holding their HEADS in pain. Physically traumatized by the flood of screaming minds in their heads, their noses bleed. Mindee, hit the hardest by the pain throws up.

5 EMMA (OFF, TP); GIRLS! I NEED YOU!

6 PHEOBE; Too loud.

7 CELESTE; Make it stop.

8 MINDEE; HUUURK!!

9 CAPTION; THE THREE IN ONE.

10 CAPTION; Telepaths.

4/ IN the f.g., a BOY PUNCHES the wall over and over as Emma rushes forward. His eyes are wide with manic joy.

11 PUNCHING BOY; IT HURTS! IT HURTS!!

5/ Emma grabs the boy's HAND, now a bloody shattered mess. His eyes roll back in his head as she psychically knocks him out.

12 PUNCHING BOY; I can feel it! It hurt-

13 EMMA; Sleep.

PAGE NINE

1/ In the STUDENT AREAS, JAY GUTHRIE (ICARUS) is moving through the crowd, his red WINGS spread. A human kid knocks him aside.

1 JAY; Everyone calm down! What—

2 JAY; OOF!

3 KID; Normal again! Normal again!

4 CAPTION; JOSHUA 'JAY' GUTHRIE. ICARUS.

5 CAPTION; Flight, healing.

2/ OTS JAY, he sees LAURIE (WALLFLOWER) and SOFIA (WIND DANCER) fighting through the crowd his way.

6 JAY; Laurie! Sofia!

7 CAPTION; LAURIE COLLINS. WALLFLOWER.

8 CAPTION; Pheromone based emotion control.

9 CAPTION; SOFIA MANTEGA. WIND DANCER.

10 CAPTION; Wind manipulation.

3/ KEVIN is making his way as well, but confused. He's listening to everything around him.

11 KID 1 (OFF); ...lost his powers...

12 KID 2 (OFF); ...human again...

13 KID 3 (OFF); ...cured!

4/ CLOSE ON KEVIN, raising his hands before his face.

14 KID 1 (OFF); No more powers.

5/ CLOSER ON KEVIN'S EXPRESSION - PURE JOY.

15 KEVIN (SMALL); No more powers.

PAGE TEN

1/ OTS KEVIN, approaching JAY, LAURIE and SOFIA in the crowd.

1 KEVIN; Laurie!! It's the most wonderful thing!

2 KEVIN; Our powers...

2/ KEVIN reaches out to LAURIE with his bare hand.

3 KEVIN; Our powers are gone!

4 LAURIE; Kevin?! Wait, what are you-

5 KEVIN; I can touch you!

3/ BIG. KEVIN GRABS LAURIE'S WRIST, his power WITHERING it. He's not letting go. She SCREAMS.

6 LAURIE; AAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!

4/ CLOSER ON KEVIN, not understanding at first.

7 LAURIE; AHHHHHHHHH!

8 KEVIN; Laurie? No... I can't-

5/ ON JAY and SOFIA, reacting in shock. Sofia's hands are out, attempting to use her powers to blow Kevin back...

9 SOFIA; Laurie!!!

10 JAY; NO!

PAGE ELEVEN

1/ Jay KNOCKS Kevin away from Laurie, who drops to the ground. Sofia looks down at her hands in the b.g., not understanding.

1 JAY; Get away from her!!

2 SFX; <WHAM!>

3 SOFIA; I... I don't understand...

2/ ANGLE ON LAURIE, on the ground holding her wrist in a fetal position as Jay protectively spreads his wings over her.

4 LAURIE (SMALL); ahhhhhhh

5 JAY; What were you thinking, Kevin?!

3/ REVERSE ON KEVIN, slumped down to the floor against a wall. He looks HORRIFIED.

6 KEVIN; No... NO! Laurie, I didn't mean...

4/ Jay has Laurie in his arms, rushing her down the hall. Sofia is backing up away from Kevin, about to turn and go after them.

7 KEVIN; LAURIE!

8 SOFIA; Kevin... please...

5/ ON KEVIN, his hands in front of his face. He stares
at them, tears streaming down his face.

9 KEVIN; My powers... I thought... I thought they
 were gone...

10 KEVIN; Oh, god, Laurie... what have I done?

PAGE TWELVE

1/ THE LOWER LEVELS of the Institute, heading toward CEREBRA. Emma Frost steadies herself against the wall, in AGONY. The frame is LITTERED with telepathic (TP) voices assaulting her. One voice in particular rings louder than the rest.

1 EMMA; Move! Move, Emma!

2 TELEPATHIC VOICES; Stay away! / Don't leave me!! / Mom! My skin! / Hate you! / Cured! / No, please no!! / **I can still fly!** Watch me!

2/ SMALL - CLOSE, her eyes going WIDE.

3 EMMA; No, Melodie don't! You can't FLY!

4 MELODIE (OFF, TP); It's okay, Miss Frost. I'll be okay!

3/ SMALL - CLOSER ON EMMA, concentrating.

5 EMMA (TP); HENRY! Melodie's on the roof! I can't stop her!

4/ BIG - OUTSIDE THE INSTITUTE, looking up at MELODIE GUTHRIE who has just jumped off the roof, her arms spread in a T like she just dove into a pool.

6 MELODIE; I can fly. I know I can!

5/ WIDE - PROFILE as HENRY MCCOY (BEAST) bursts out of a second story window, catching Melodie as she plummets to earth.

7 SFX; KRASH!

8 BEAST; I've got you!

9 CAPTION; HENRY 'HANK' MCOY. BEAST.

10 CAPTION; Strength and animalistic
attributes.

11 CAPTION; MELODIE GUTHRIE. AERO.

12 CAPTION; Flight.

PAGE THIRTEEN

1/ Back inside, on EMMA. We're behind her as she's dropped to one knee heading toward the doors to Cerebra.

1 EMMA; Henry keep her safe, until I-

2 EMMA; Wait. Wait, I can't find Hydro!

2/ ON EMMA, telepathically communicating.

3 EMMA; Alex! Logan! Anyone!?! I can't find Hy-

3/ DRAMATIC ANGLE on WOLVERINE, pulling JOSEPH/HYDRO out of the POOL outside the Institute.

4 WOLVERINE; I got him. He's gone.

5 CAPTION; LOGAN. WOLVERINE.

6 CAPTION; Indestructible bones, claws, heightened senses and healing.

4/ BACK ON EMMA, angry.

7 EMMA; Dammit!

8 EMMA (TP); GIRLS, I NEED YOU NOW!

5/ Emma opens the door to Cerebro, and behind her the Cuckoos are crawling down the hallway, blood POURING from their noses.

9 MINDEE; Miss Frost?

10 CELESTE; I'm dying.

11 PHOEBE; Make it stop.

PAGE FOURTEEN AND FIFTEEN

SIX PANELS, STACKED THREE PER PAGE

1/ JOSH FOLEY (ELIXIR) is still GOLD as he sits up in bed, looking over to DAVID (PRODIGY) in his bed. Josh looks confused, while David looks concerned.

1 JOSH; What's going on?

2 CAPTION; JOSH FOLEY. ELIXIR.

3 CAPTION; Bio-manipulation.

4 DAVID; I... I don't know.

5 DAVID; I don't know anything.

6 CAPTION; DAVID ALLEYNE. PRODIGY.

7 CAPTION; Telepathic absorption of skills and knowledge.

2/ JULIAN KELLER (HELLION) floats a few feet off the ground in his room, looking down at BRIAN (TAG), who looks afraid.

8 JULIAN; What the hell's the matter with you?

9 CAPTION; JULIAN KELLER. HELLION.

10 CAPTION; Telekinetic.

11 CAPTION; BRIAN CRUZ. TAG.

12 CAPTION; Telepathic repeller.

3/ NORIKO ASHIDA (SURGE) looks down at her hands covered in their clunky GAUNTLETS, crackling with ENERGY. In the b.g., DUST watches her.

13 SOORYA; We must go help.

14 CAPTION; SOORAYA QADIR. DUST.

15 CAPTION; Sand form.

16 NORI; Yeah... yeah, we should.

17 CAPTION; NORIKO ASHIDA. SURGE.

18 CAPTION; Electrical absorption and discharge.

4/ CESSILY KINCAIDE (MERCURY) looks into the mirror, the metal of her face MELTING off. Her eyes are brimming with tears.

19 CESSILY; Why not me? WHY NOT ME?!!

20 CAPTION; CESSILY KINCAIDE. MERCURY.

21 CAPTION; Liquid mercury shape-shifter.

5/ SANTO (ROCKSLIDE) is still sprawled out in bed, SNORING.

22 SANTO; ZZZZZZZZZZ <SNORT>

23 CAPTION; SANTO VACCARRO. ROCKSLIDE.

24 CAPTION; Rock body, detachable limbs.

6/ KEVIN is still on the floor in the hall, SCREAMING.

25 KEVIN; No. no. no. no. no. NO! This isn't right... this isn't FAIR!

PAGE SIXTEEN

1/ BIG - massive shot of a holo representation of the PLANET, with a very small amount of RED DOTS illuminated on it. About 300, the number of mutants left on the planet. This is CEREBRA, and we're behind Emma Frost at the controls as she looks up at it.

1 CEREBRO; MUTANT POPULATION ANOMALY...

2 CEREBRO; REESTIMATING POPULATION.

2/ ON EMMA, in horrified shock. Behind her, the Cuckoos are struggling to join her.

3 CEREBRO; 91.4% DECREASE COMPARED TO PRIOR DATA

4 EMMA (small); Damn you, Pietro.

5 MINDEE; Miss Frost!

3/ SAME. Emma's EYES CLOSE.

6 EMMA; Help me, girls.

7 EMMA; All at once...

4/ A telepathic SHOCKWAVE emanates from the four platinum blondes.

8 EMMA (TP); SLEEP!

PAGE SEVENTEEN

1/ THE INSTITUTE. Dozens of students are sleeping.

1 EMMA (TP); SLEEP!

2/ THE INSTITUTE. More of the same. We see Kevin with them.

2 EMMA (TP); SLEEP!

3/ THE INSTITUTE. Jay, Sofia lie on the floor outside the INFIRMARY. Laurie is asleep as well, her hand in the f.g. The wrist is withered down to the BONE.

NO DIALOGUE

4/ ON EMMA, exhausted. The three Cuckoos are on the floor of the Cerebro chamber, spent but conscious.

3 EMMA; Thank you, my girls.

4 MINDEE; Not... your girls.

5 CELESTE; Never... yours.

6 PHOEBE; Wh- what's happening?

PAGE EIGHTEEN

1/ Re-Establish - the INSTITUTE. Now quiet and still.

1 CAPTION; 2 DAYS LATER.

2/ Emma's OFFICE. An extremely PISSED OFF DANIELLE MOONSTAR brushes past SCOTT SUMMERS as he enters. Scott calls after her...

2 SCOTT; Danielle? What-

3 SCOTT; Dani, wait! What's wrong?!

4 CAPTION; SCOTT SUMMERS. CYCLOPS.

5 CAPTION; Optic Force Blasts.

6 CAPTION; DANIELLE MOONSTAR. MIRAGE.

7 CAPTION; Telepathic illusion projection.

3/ Scott TURNS, seeing EMMA in her office staring back.

8 SFX; <SLAM!>

9 EMMA; She has no place here, Scott. None of them do.

10 SCOTT; And I said we would discuss this!

4/ OUTSIDE HER OFFICE - CLOSE ON THE DOOR, THE PLAQUE READING 'EMMA FROST - HEADMISTRESS' We can see her and Scott's silhouettes through the frosted glass.

11 EMMA; Without her powers she's nothing but a potential victim. Just like the rest of the human students.

12 SCOTT; I DON'T CARE! She's one of us! We don't just throw our-

13 EMMA; This is a school for the **gifted** and she no longer fits into that category.

5/ OUTSIDE HER OFFICE, we see WOLVERINE by the door
listening in.

14 EMMA; Scott, I understand how much she means
to you, to the students... But don't you
see... I'm trying to save her.

15 SCOTT; This isn't right.

16 EMMA; Don't be selfish, Scott. Let her go...
for her sake.

PAGE NINETEEN

1/ THE INFIRMARY. CLOSE ON LAURIE'S WRIST. It looks better than it did before, but still really, really bad.

1 LAURIE; I can't feel my hand.

2 LAURIE; Josh, please help me.

2/ PULL BACK. Josh sits on a stool beside Laurie in her bed. Her eyes are filled with tears, and HIS are brimming as well.

3 JOSH; Laurie... I'm trying..

4 JOSH; I just... I can't stop crying.

5 JOSH; Is that you or me?

3/ PULL BACK. Long on Josh and Laurie. He puts his hand on hers.

6 LAURIE; Oh, Josh... I think it's you.

7 JOSH; Okay. Okay. Let me try this again.

8 JOSH; I'll fix you, Laurie.

9 JOSH; I promise.

4/ PULL BACK. Outside the Infirmary, looking IN through the glass. In the reflection, we see KEVIN FORD looking in. His face is so, so dark.

NO DIALOGUE

PAGE TWENTY

1/ WIDE ON X-23 SITTING ON the edge of FISHERMAN'S WHARF in San Francisco. Dressed in her dark Goth clothing and choker necklace, she sits with her legs hanging off the pier staring out across the water at Alcatraz.

1 CAPTION; FISHERMAN'S WHARF, SAN FRANCISCO

2 SFX; <RING>

2/ We see her face now. It's beautiful but somber. Her eyes express she's a million miles away. Laura holds onto the locket of her choker, gently pulling it away from her neck. Laura thinks of the loved ones she has lost, the same ones pictured inside that locket.

3 SFX; <RING> <RING>

4 CAPTION; LAURA X. X-23.

5 CAPTION; Superhuman healing, enhanced senses,
adamantium laced claws.

3/ ECU ON WOLVERINE, cell phone held to his ear. We can't tell where he is yet.

(NOTE: HE'S IN A SEPARATE SECTION OF THE SCHOOL INFIRMARY, STANDING OVER THE BODY OF THE KID HE PULLED OUT OF THE POOL (HYDRO JOE). THE BODY LIES ON A STEEL MEDICAL TABLE.

6 WOLVERINE; You might as well say hello, kid. I
can hear you breathing.

4/ CLOSE on X-23's beautiful face as she holds a cell phone to her ear.

7 LAURA; I miss them...

8 WOLVERINE (OFF); I know you do but they aren't there
anymore.

9 LAURA; She was my only friend.

10 WOLVERINE (OFF); I know she was, Laura.

11 WOLVERINE (OFF); I know she was...

PAGE TWENTY ONE

1/ CLOSE ON X-23, her eyes begin to well up with tears but they don't leave her eyes.

1 WOLVERINE (OFF); ...but she's gone now and you being there won't bring her back.

2 WOLVERINE (OFF); Look, your breaking my heart but I didn't call to talk about that. You have to come back.

3 LAURA; No!

2/ WIDER ON WOLVERINE. He looks down, and in the b.g., we see various medical items and machinery but most of the environment is obscured by a sheet separating this area from the rest of the Infirmary.

4 WOLVERINE; You and I had a deal and I kept my end of it. I didn't tell anyone I knew you. I even let you slash me across the face, something I don't remember agreeing to but whatever and you-

5 LAURA (OFF); I tried!

6 WOLVERINE; No, you didn't.

3/ Close on Laura.

7 WOLVERINE (OFF); No more alien costumes, no more growling, and no more BS! You have to come back and try it for real this time.

8 LAURA; They'll find me there. They found me once before.

9 WOLVERINE (OFF); You're probably right. But do you think Weapon X will ever stop looking for me? Not a @#\$ing chance! But that doesn't matter, now.

4/ WIDE ON WOLVERINE. We can now see that he's looking down at Hydro Joe's dead body on the cold steel table.

10 WOLVERINE; The world just got a whole lot scarier
 and the kids of this school need you.

11 LAURA (OFF); But-

12 WOLVERINE; And more importantly, **you** need them!

5/ Close on Laura. Tears now run down her cheeks as Wolverine finally gets through to her.

13 WOLVERINE (OFF); The only chance you have Laura is here.
 If you don't come back you're already
 dead.

14 WOLVERINE (OFF) Trust me, just come-

15 SFX; <CLICK>

6/ WIDE on Laura now stands on one of the pier support poles. She tosses the cell phone into the water and just stares out to the skyline.

16 SFX; <SPLOOSH>

PAGE TWENTY TWO

1/ POV. Night. We're moving through the grounds of the Institute. It feels empty and quiet.

1 CAPTION; XAVIER INSTITUTE.

2 CAPTION; TWO WEEKS AFTER M.

3 EMMA (VO); The news is out, Scott...

2/ POV. We're closer to the front. We see the front door. The angle is off, as if we're not steady on our feet.

4 EMMA (VO); The mutant population has been
decimated...

3/ POV. Our HAND reaches up, palming the door's ornate KNOCKER. The back of our hand is BLOODY.

5 SFX; <CHNK!>

6 EMMA (VO); ...and sooner than later, our enemies
WILL come for us.

4/ Our hand falls and slides down the door. Leaving a bloody HAND PRINT and streak of crimson down the face of the door.

7 EMMA (VO); If you want blood on your hands, so be
it.

5/ On the door as it begins to open.

8 EMMA (VO); But I'm going to protect these children
at any cost.

PAGE TWENTY THREE (SORRY!)

SPLASH w/INSERT

1/ INSERT - EMMA FROST opens the door, her face in shock
as she looks down...

1 EMMA; Jay?

2/ BIRD'S EYE VIEW of JAY GUTHRIE (ICARUS) on the GROUND
in front of the DOOR. His face is visible, his cheek to
the ground. His eyes are open in a way that makes us think
he's dead. His WINGLESS BACK SOAKED WITH BLOOD.

2 EMMA; no.

TO BE CONTINUED.

'CHILDHOOD'S END'
PART ONE

WRITTEN BY CRAIG KYLE and CHRISTOPHER YOST
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